Expansion of branches of banks in North-Eastern States

2560. SHRI HARVENDA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have urged the commercial banks to complete all the works of expansion in the North-Eastern States within time bound programme;

(b) if so, what are the details of the commercial banks which will expand their branches in the North-Eastern States;

(c) what are the details of the new schemes likely to be introduced by these commercial banks; and

(d) to what extent the poor people in the region will be benefited thereby?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) Reserve of Bank of India (RBI) has reported that on the basis of lists of identified centres received from the State Governments, allotment of eligible centres in North-Eastern Region has been made except in 4 districts in Arunachal Pradesh and 3 districts in Nagaland. RBI has allotted up to 31-10-1989, 190 centres to commercial banks and 206 centres to Regional Rural Banks in rural and semi-urban areas in North-Eastern region. Most of the Public Sector Banks having good representation in these States and Regional Rural Banks have been granted licences to open branches at various centres. In addition, RBI has allotted 13 centres to banks in urban areas in North-Eastern region upto 31-10-1988. The details of these rural-semi-urban and urban centres are indicated below:—

Name of State	Rural/Semi-Urban centres		Urban centres
	Commercial Banks	RRBs	
Assam	116	117	8
Manipur	7	13	..
Meghalaya	13	13	3
Nagaland	7	11	..
Tripura	20	15	2
Arunachal Pradesh	14	15	..
Mizoram	13	22	..
TOTAL	190	206	13

Initially, RBI had advised the banks to open the branches at the allotted centres in a phased manner during the remaining period of current Branch Licensing Policy i.e. upto 31-3-1990. However, in the context of Service Area Approach to rural lending, RBI had advised the banks to open branches at the allotted centres as early as possible preferably before 31-12-1988 to facilitate allocation of villages to those rural and semi-urban branches and implementation of other guidelines under the Scheme.

(c) and (d) There are several ongoing poverty alleviation programmes

and schemes meant for weaker sections like Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Self-Employment Programme for Urban Poor (SEPUP), Self Employment to Educated Unemployed Youth (SEEUY) and Differential Rate of Interest Scheme etc. As and when considered necessary banks introduce new schemes specially suited to a particular area.

Demand of Coffee growers in Karnataka

2561. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Coffee growers in Karnataka have expressed a desire to market their produce instead of surrendering their entire produce to the Coffee Board;

(b) if so, what action Government have taken in the matter;

(c) whether the Coffee growers' decision to market in open will have any adverse affect on the working of the Coffee Board; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

TEH MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI) (a) and (b) Some planter members had expressed a desire to market their produce by getting internal sale quota. Based on the recommendations of the Coffee Board Government after the due consideration have decided not to allow internal sale quota for the Coffee seasons 1987-88.

(c) and (d) The implications of allowing internal sale quota include practical difficulties in its implementation and the prices to be realised by the growers owing to rush sale of the internal sale quota Coffee during the short period of two to three months.

Environmental safeguards for the Narmada Sagar Project

2562. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an environmental plan has been prepared by the Central Government to provide environmental safeguards for the Narmada Sagar Project;

(b) if so, what are its features and estimated cost; and

(c) by what time they are expected to be started and completed?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b) No, Sir Detailed Environmental Action Plans are prepared by the project authorities. Narmada Valley Development Authority is preparing Action Plans for the Narmada Sagar Project covering the following aspects:

Catchment Area Treatment;
Command Area Development;

Rehabilitation of Flora, Fauna and Human Population;

Health Aspects; and

Reservoir Induced Seismicity.

Field data are under collection for preparation of these plans. Therefore the cost estimates would be available only when complete plans are ready.

(c) Collection of data preparation of Action Plans and their implementation are expected to be done in phases. Complete details on various Action Plans are expected to be ready in 1990-91.

Losses incurred by NTC

2563. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Na-